

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 182067 TOSEC 190066

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 CCO-00 SSO-00 /024 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W-RAMCGUIRE:DFF

APPROVED BY AF-WESCHAUFEELE

S/S: O - MTANNER

S: HAL COLLUMS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 182067 TOSEC 190066

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, SL

SUBJECT:ACTION MEMORANDUM: APPOINTMENT REQUEST - VICE
PRESIDENT AND MINISTER OF FINANCE S.I. KOROMA OF SIERRA
LEONE (S/S 7615750)

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AF-SCHAUFEELE

1. VICE PRESIDENT KOROMA HAS REQUESTED, THROUGH THE
SIERRA LEONEAN AMBASSADOR, AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOU DURING
THE PERIOD JULY 27-29 TO PAY A COURTESY CALL. KOROMA,
WHO IS CURRENTLY THE LEADING CANDIDATE TO FOLLOW STEVENS,
AGE 70, AS PRESIDENT OF SIERRA LEONE, IS MAKING HIS FIRST
VISIT TO THE US. THE MAIN PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT IS TO
DISCUSS SIERRA LEONE'S ECONOMIC SITUATION WITH THE IBRD.

2. KORMA, 46, HAS BEEN VICE PRESIDENT SINCE 1971. ONCE
VERY CRITICAL OF US POLICIES, OVER THE PAST YEAR HE HAS
BECOME OPENLY FRIENDLY TOWARD THE US. KOROMA'S SHIFT IS
INDICATIVE OF THE SIGNIFICANT AND RECENT IMPROVEMENT IN
US-SL RELATIONS. SIERRA LEONE HAS ALSO ADOPTED RECENTLY
MORE HELPFUL POSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. A BRIEF
MEETING WITH KOROMA WOULD REINFORCE THE MODERATE ATTITUDE
EVINCED BY SIERRA LEONE'S LEADERS AND COULD PAY FUTURE
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DIVIDENDSIF KOROMA BECOMES HIS COUNTRY'S PRESIDENT.

3. RECOMMENDATION: THAT YOU AGREE TO A CALL BY KOROMA

ON TUESDAY, JULY 27, WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, OR THURSDAY,
JULY 29.

APPROVE: DISAPPROVE:

DATE: TIME:

4. DRAFTED BY: AF/W-RAMCGUIRE
CLEARANCE: S- HCOLLUMS
ROBINSON

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